

2001P80126WOUS
Martin von Werber

REMARKS

Claim Status

Currently, claims 1-22 are present, claims 4-7 have been cancelled and their subject matter incorporated into claim 1. No new matter has been added. Appropriate consideration of the amendments and additions is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-22 under 35 USC §112. In particular, it was noted that the term “said cast” in claim 1 lacks antecedent basis. By way of the above amendment, claim 1 has been amended to provide the antecedent basis. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 15 and 20 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kalebjian *et al.* (US Pat. 5,794,591). For the following reasons Applicant traverses. The Examiner indicated that claims 7-13 and 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of their respective base claims and amended to overcome the §112 rejection. By way of the above amendment, claim 7 and all the limitations of its base claims have been amended into claim 1. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to address the §112 rejection. Accordingly, the claims are now considered allowable and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 7-13 and 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the above §112 rejection and to include all the limitations of their respective base claims. Applicant notes this with appreciation.

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CONCLUSION

The present response is intended to correspond with the Revised Amendment Format. Applicants understand that with the Revised Amendment Format, the provisions of 37 CFR §1.121 are waived. Should any part of the present response not be in full compliance with the requirements of the Revised Amendment Format, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned for immediate correction.

No new matter has been added by way of the aforementioned amendments.

In the event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension of time and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No.: 502464 referencing client reference: 2001P80126WOUS. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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